



City of Seattle
Seattle Public Utilities

MEMORANDUM

Date: December 3, 2013

To: Councilmember Jean Godden, Chair
Seattle City Council Libraries, Utilities and Center Committee

From: Ray Hoffman, Director, Seattle Public Utilities

Subject: SPU's 2013 Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI) Presentation

Seattle Public Utilities continued to make progress implementing its RSJI Work Plan in 2013. Using the RSJI filter and the Racial Equity Toolkit as a template, we continue to develop and incorporate equity analysis questions and tools into key decision-making processes so that we can make better informed policy, program and budget decisions. This is more important than ever in our current environment to avoid creating inadvertent negative impacts to our traditionally underserved communities. Eliminating race-based inequities in our city is difficult work, and requires a long-term commitment. Your shared commitment and continuing support is critical to our success.

As you know, SPU is locally and nationally recognized for implementing the goals of RSJI. Our 2013 RSJI highlights include the continued embedding of WMBE inclusion throughout the SPU procurement process, application of equity tools to projects and programs, and our developing Strategic Business Plan which all work to strengthen partnerships with customers and community service providers. The attached documents accompany several of our major accomplishments in 2013—around the Strategic Business Plan Outreach and Engagement, two Capital Improvement Projects we will discuss in our briefing, and the Tipping Point model SPU has adopted to help further embed racial equity planning and analysis into the department.

I look forward to sharing our work, and strategizing with the Committee about how we can collectively work for racial equity.

Cc: Councilmember Richard Conlin
Councilmember Sally Bagshaw
SOCR – Julie Nelson, Glenn Harris and Darlene Flynn

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